

W6VIO CALLING

SEPTEMBER



SEPTEMBER 1991 Volume 20 No. 9

Jet Propulsion Laboratory
W6VIO CALLING M/S 264-419
Attn: Eileen McKinney
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Club Meetings:

Everyone is encouraged to attend - Bring your lunch.

12 Noon

Program - Second Wednesday of month in 238-543

Business - Fourth Wednesday of month in 180-703B

Newsletter Article Deadline: The 5th. day of each month. If the 5th. falls on a weekend, the following Monday will be the deadline.

Your articles, ads, photos, diagrams, Letters to the Editor, or technical instructions should be submitted to Editor at address above.

EXCHANGE CLUBS: PLEASE NOTE ADDRESS ABOVE

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Art Zygielbaum, WA6SAL

Several of you know that I have my home station equipped with a Com Shack 64 remote. This is a device built upon the Commodore 64 computer. It allows me to Interconnect a 440/2M rig with my IC-735 low-band rig. That way I can DX when I go for my morning walks. Recently I overheard several conversations with Soviet hams and I was privileged to make a contact with a UW3. It is amazing that I can be walking through the streets of La Canada and talking to a ham half a world away! But what impressed me even more was the immediacy of the international situation afforded to me. Soviet hams seem to be acting just like the hams "down the street." You hear about their kids, their jobs, and their thoughts. It's a long way from the 60's and 70's (and from a year or two ago) when all you got was "Your signals are 5/6. My name is Ivan. I'm in Moscow. And QSL to Box 88 Moscow." It gives me a real sense of wonder and appreciation. I trust that many of you have sensed the same thing. Ham radio is really a lot of fun.

I want to acknowledge the radio club members who helped with the JPL Bike Club's Angeles Century Race. Spearheaded by Bob Deen, N5DPU, several JPL ARC members helped mind race mileposts and check points. They were Rick McKinney, KA6DAN, Jim Kesterson, KA6IBF, Randy Hammock, KC6HUR, Lisa Walno, N6ZKI, Tom Greer, KC6TML, and Jami Smith, KK6CU. Public service is another important part of the hobby. Good show!

Our recent mini-commemorative celebrating the 100th anniversary of Caltech was successful. We've received about 50 QSLs to date. We're printing up a special QSL to send back. Based on the feedback, it would be good for the club to have more commemoratives. All we need are the people to take part. I'd like to thank Mark Schaefer, WB6CIA, for leading the effort.

A reminder! Our October meeting will include a presentation by Chuck North who is the head of ICOM's Amateur Radio Division. We should get a good look at ICOM's new products. The meeting will be at 12 Noon, Wednesday, October 9 in 238-543.

Remember the Emergency Net at Noon on Mondays. Looking forward to talking to you on the air. 73, Art Zygielbaum WA6SAL

AMSAT ANNUAL MEETING & JPL TOUR by Skip Reymann, W6PAJ

Amsat is holding its 1991 Annual Meeting in Los Angeles on 8-10 Nov. 1991. One of the featured activities will be a tour of JPL on Sunday 10 November from 10a.m. to 1 p.m. About 150 Amsat members and some family members are expected. Skip Reymann is looking for a few JPL hams to act as tour guides on the von Karmann/SFOF/SAF circuit. If you can help in this brief public service effort, please call Skip at 4-9465 or drop a note to 300-241.

DX NEWS
By Bob Polansky, N6ET

Propagation predictions have been lack-luster at best for the last month, but you couldn't tell it by listening to the HF bands. Burma has been active and workable on all bands but 10 meters. St. Brandon Island has been activated for the first time in over a decade and has been worked all over the world on 20 and 15 meters. Just a casual listen should convince you that there is a pile of dx out there just waiting to give you QSO's. As usual, "The DX Bulletin" has provided us with insight into what's going on and what's planned in the near term dx-wise.

ALBANIA - ZA1A will be the call sign used when Albania formally joins the ranks of amateur radio operators on the 16th of September. Twelve DX heavyweights from all over the world will be acting as members of an instructional team to train Albanian amateurs of the future. There will be lots of on-the-air instruction, we understand. Frequencies to watch are 14020, 21020, and 28020 kHz for cw and 14145, 21245, and 28345 kHz for ssb. The Albanian hams will also operate on 14295, 21395, and 28695 kHz.

ANGOLA - For those of you who didn't work D2ACA on his last trip, you'll have another chance between 15 and 30 September. Just look for the right pile-up.

BURMA - Romeo, 3W3RR, and a group of others is keeping XY0RR very busy on 80 through 15 meters. Look for them on 3794, 7045, 14195, and 21295 kHz on ssb and 3807, 7001, 14020, and 21020 kHz on cw.

GLORIOSO/TROMELIN - FR5ZU/G and FR5ZU/T will be active during September and October respectively. No frequencies were given.

MADAGASCAR - 5R8AL will be back on Madagascar from 15 September through 15 October. He was weak, but workable on the 20 meter long path in the mornings on both cw and ssb during his last trip.

SAINT BRANDON - The operation of 3B8CF/3B7 is going strong. He has worked many on 14035 kHz on the long path from 1300 to 1500Z. He is very active on both the 21335 and 14256 kHz dx nets and plans on being there through September.

SAN FELIX - XQ0X will return to San Felix during October. Look for him on 15, 20, and 40 meter dx nets.

SOUTH ORKNEY ISLAND - VP8CFM is reported regularly around 28490 kHz from 1400 to 1700Z. He has also been QSOed by a California ham on 28515 kHz at 1715Z.

TOGO - 5V7JG is active now through December. No specific frequencies given.

Don't forget to save the weekend of 26/27 October for the CQ WW SSB Contest. Lots of exciting dx is planned including V63, CT3, V47, J37, and V31. You'll have a ball!

Good DX,
Bob, N6ET

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